

2003 NDLA Resolutions

These resolutions were passed at the Third General Session of the 97th Annual NDLA Conference on Friday, September 26, 2003.

Section – Executive Board

Section Chair – Kaaren Pupino, President

Whereas, the meeting and events of the 97th annual conference were organized by Pamela Drayson, Conference Chair; Marilyn Johnson, Local Arrangements Chair; and the Bismarck-Mandan area librarians and friends, and

Whereas, the facilities and staff of the Radisson Hotel in Bismarck, North Dakota, contributed to the success of the conference,

Now therefore, be it resolved: that the North Dakota Library Association expresses its appreciation and extends its thanks to the Conference Chair, members of the Local Arrangements Committee, conference facility staff, speakers, program presenters, and exhibitors for the 97th annual conference, “Successful Libraries: Successful Communities.”

Section – Executive Board

Section Chair – Kaaren Pupino, President

Whereas, libraries are essential for promoting the free flow of information to individuals and communities; and

Whereas, privacy is essential to individuals as they study, learn, investigate, and explore the many different ideas and points of view in our interconnected world; and

Whereas, in a library, the subject of a user’s interests should not be examined or scrutinized by others; and

Whereas, this right to privacy of library records has already been recognized by North Dakota librarians and legislators in the North Dakota Century Code; and

Whereas, certain provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act and the revised Attorney General’s Guidelines for the FBI greatly expand the authority of the federal government to investigate the interests of library users through surveillance and examination of library records, thereby threatening the civil rights guaranteed under the Constitution and Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, such surveillance will intimidate users and suppress free, open, and confidential access to information,

Now therefore, be it resolved: that the North Dakota Library Association help to educate librarians about the law and develop policies for dealing with provisions of the PATRIOT Act which protect the rights of their patrons as much as possible, and

Be it further resolved: that North Dakota librarians educate their boards, governing bodies, and users about the dangers to privacy, confidentiality, and access, and

Be it further resolved that: the North Dakota Library Association encourages Representative Pomeroy and Senators Dorgan and Conrad to support legislation to end surveillance in libraries and bookstores.

Section – School Library and Youth Services (SLAYS)
Section Chair – Konnie Wightman

Whereas, the Department of Public Instruction recommends that schools spend \$10 per student per year on library materials, and

Whereas, the recommendation has been in effect since the time when \$10 per student might have bought two books per student per year, and

Whereas, the cost and format of library materials has changed considerably in the last 30 years when this recommendation was put into place, with books alone now averaging at least \$19.95 per book,

Now therefore, be it resolved: that NDLA request that the Department of Public instruction raise their recommended spending level per student to between \$25 and \$35 per year.

Section – Public Library
Section Chair – Agnes Jensen

Whereas, public libraries using E Rate funds have been mandated to implement filtering, and

Whereas, the North Dakota State Library, the Information Technology Department (ITD) and public libraries of North Dakota are working together to implement a workable method for required filtering, and

Whereas, the planning group is making every effort to minimize the negative impact of filtering on general public services,

Now therefore, be it resolved: that the North Dakota Library Association support this collaboration effort among public libraries in North Dakota, the North Dakota State Library, and ITD at the state level to comply with federal requirements.

Section – Government Documents Roundtable
Section Chair – Stella Cone

Whereas, the City of Fargo received over 7 inches of rain the night of June 19-20, 2000 that overwhelmed city drainage systems, and

Whereas, the basement of the North Dakota State University Library flooded, resulting in the loss of its extensive map collection, and

Whereas, the United States Geological Survey has replaced most of the ruined maps,

Now therefore, be it resolved: that NDLA express its appreciation to the United States Geological Survey for its generosity in making these maps available to the citizens of North Dakota.